

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0498

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, NATO, XH, MPOL
SUBJECT: ECONADS: ECONOMIC APPRECIATION FOR DPC
MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977

REF: (A) USNATO 403(DTG 251359Z JAN 77), (B) USNATO 362
(DTG 211718Z JAN 77)

1. AT JAN. 27 ECONADS MEETING CHAIRMAN BILLY DREW ATTENTION TO AC/127-WP/499, "APPRECIATION OF THE ECONOMIC POSITION OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT MEMBER COUNTRIES FOR THE PERIOD THROUGH 1984." THIS WAS THE FIRST PART OF A PAPER PREPARED BY THE ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE IN RESPONSE TO THE USUAL REQUEST FROM ASYG FOR DEFENSE PLANNING TO ASSIST IN THE PREPARATION OF BIENNIAL DPC MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. THE SECOND PART, STILL IN PREPARATION, WOULD SOON BE ISSUED, ALBEIT UNDER ANOTHER DOC NUMBER IN THE AC/127 SERIES. HE ASKED FOR NATIONAL REACTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THE FINAL VERSION MIGHT BE PASSED TO ASYG MUMFORD IN THREE WEEKS.

2. THE FRENCH REP (TAXIL) QUESTIONED, BUT DID NOT OBJECT TO, DIRECTORATE PREPARATION OF THE STUDY, NOTING THAT FRANCE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DPC. BILLY (ALSO A FRENCHMAN) TOOK NOTE OF THIS BUT SAID THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO CONFIDENTIAL

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INCLUDE DATA ON ALL 15 NATO MEMBERS IN THE APPRECIATION TO MAKE IT MEANINGFUL IN AN ECONOMIC SENSE. MUCH OF THE BASIC DATA CAME FROM OECD STATISTICS AND ANALYSIS, AND SEEMED TO BILLY TO BE VALID THROUGH 1980. ASSESSMENTS FOR THE PERIOD BEYOND WERE BY THE DIRECTORATE.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY THE CANADIAN REP (MCNAB) BILLY - SUPPORTED BY ECONADS DOYEN DE BROUWERE - SAID THAT THESE ASSESSMENTS ARE MADE UNDER ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AEGIS (HENCE REFLECTING NATIONAL PARTICIPATION AND APPROVAL)

RATHER THAN ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY AS THE HEAD OF THE ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE. HE REITERATED THE URGENCY WHICH MUMFORD AND THE DRC PLACED ON EARLY RECEIPT OF THE APPRECIATION AND ASKED FOR EARLY NATIONAL REACTIONS.

4. WE ARE TRANSMITTING AC/127-WP/499 TO DOD/ISA-WILLIAM GEORGE SEPARATELY AND ASK HE ARRANGE FOR PROMPT WASHINGTON DISSEMINATION TO INTERESTED OFFICES.

5. WHILE WE HAVE NOT YET HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO READ THE PAPER THOROUGHLY, OUR IMPRESSION AFTER AN INITIAL SCANNING IS QUITE POSITIVE.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EARLY WASHINGTON REVIEW AND GUIDANCE-PREFERABLY IN TIME FOR FEB. 10 ECONADS MEETING.STRAUSZ-HUPE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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